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**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED  
EXAMINING GROUP 1743**

**PATENT**

Customer No. 22,852

Attorney Docket No. 5552.1442

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

Ralf OTTO et al.

Application No.: 09/551,851<sup>581</sup>

Filed: April 18, 2000

For: CLOSURE APPLIANCE FOR  
REAGENT CONTAINER

)  
)  
) Group Art Unit: 1743

)  
) Examiner: B. R. GORDON

)  
) Confirmation No.: 1852

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

OK TO ENTER  
BRL  
9/24/04

**RECEIVED**

**AUG 18 2004**

**TC 1700**

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL**

In reply to the Final Office Action mailed December 17, 2003, the period for response having been extended to June 17, 2004 by a Petition for Extension of Time - Three Months filed on June 16, 2004, and having been further extended to August 16, 2004 by a Notice of Appeal filed June 16, 2004, and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, Applicants propose that this application be amended as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper.

**Remarks** follow the amendment sections of this paper.